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Urban District Council of Rishton

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including details of work done by the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE DISTRICT OF RISHTON FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1965

Medical Officer of Health—

R. C. WEBSTER,
T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

19 St. James Street,
ACCRINGTON.
Telephone: Accrington 34223

Public Health Inspector—

S. PILKINGTON,
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices, Brook Street,
RISHTON, Near Blackburn.
Telephone: Gt.Harwood 2264/5

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To the Chairman and Members
OF THE
Urban District Council of Rishton

Council Offices,
RISHTON.
May, 1966

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	2,878.4
Rateable Value	£189,746
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate	£758
Population 1961 Census	5,431
Estimated 1964 Mid-year Population	5,370
Estimated 1965 Mid-year Population	5,400

Rishton is a compact Urban area whose chief industries are cotton, felt and carpet weaving, paper making, paint and varnish manufacture, paper string manufacture, slipper and shoe manufacture and plastic products.

VITAL STATISTICS

Death Rate (Crude)	16.3
Death Rate (adjusted)	15.1
Mortality Rate Malignant Neoplasms ...	2.41
Live Birth Rate (crude)	14.4
Live Birth Rate (adjusted)	16.3
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births	25.0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	—
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	—
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births .	—
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	25.0

There were 78 live births and two stillbirths registered during 1965 and 88 deaths. Live births registered during the year show a decrease of 5 over last year's figures.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The year unfortunately saw an outbreak of Poliomyelitis in a neighbouring Borough, one case occurring within our Boundaries. Thanks to the co-operation of the Public in attending vaccination clinics, the cases were confined to this one case. It is unfortunate that only at times of scare do some people realize the value of vaccination and inoculations offered.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Local Health and Welfare Services under the National Health and Assistance Acts are administered in Rishton by the Lancashire County Council Number 5 Health Division.

Miss J. Lord is the Health Visitor/School Nurse for the Rishton District, and the following are the services administered at the Child Welfare and School Clinic, 108 High Street, Rishton. Telephone: Great Harwood 3177.

1. Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinic	1st and 3rd Wednesday each month (morning)
2. Child Welfare Clinic	Each Tuesday afternoon
3. Immunisation Clinic	As and when arranged.
4. Orthopaedic Clinic	4th Wednesday each month (by appointment)
5. Ophthalmic Clinic	1st and 3rd Friday (afternoon) (by appointment)
6. Dental Clinic	Each Monday and Thursday (Gas session, Thursday a.m.)
7. Physiotherapy	Each Wednesday (all day)

Wherever possible appointments should be made before the Clinics (under headings 4 to 7) are attended, though the Dental Officer will attend to cases of toothache without appointment.

The County Midwife for Rishton is Mrs. Phillipson, 4 Devonshire Drive, Clayton-le-Moors. Telephone: Accrington 31250.

The County District Nurse for the District is Mrs. Brandrick, the Bungalow, Wharf Street, Rishton. Telephone: Great Harwood 2450.

To obtain the Ambulance Service, ring Accrington 34834.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	Total	Males	Females
Live Births—Legitimate	72	40	32
Live Births—Illegitimate	6	4	2
	—	—	—
	78	44	34
Stillbirths	2	2	—
Deaths	88	40	48

POPULATION FIGURES OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS

	Registrar General's Estimated Figure	Births	Deaths	Births & Deaths Differential
1965	5,400	78	88	−10
1964	5,370	83	83	—
1963	5,440	71	84	−13
1962	5,450	97	77	+20
1961	5,460	82	77	+ 5
1960	5,460	71	77	− 6
1959	5,470	70	66	+ 4
1958	5,500	85	87	− 2
1957	5,540	58	61	− 3
1956	5,580	77	80	− 3

SUMMARY CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	—	1
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms, Lung Bronchus	6	1	7
Malignant Neoplasms, Breast	—	1	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	3	5
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	8	15
Coronary Disease, Angina	10	9	19
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	1	1
Other Heart Disease	3	3	6
Other Circulatory Disease	—	3	3
Pneumonia	3	8	11
Bronchitis	2	3	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	1
Ulcers of Stomach & Duodenum	1	—	1
Other Defined or Ill-Defined Diseases	—	3	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	1
All Other Accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	1	—	1
	40	48	88

PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the 31st December, 1965, compared with 1964.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1964...	8	3	11	—	1	1	8	4	12
1965...	3	1	4	—	—	—	3	1	4
Removed from District									4
Recovered									4
Died									1
New Case									1

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases at all ages	Age Periods—years 0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25 and over	age unknown
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis											
Paralytic ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ...	9	—	2	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	12	—	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Disease	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	7	6	20	197	9
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	11	—	—	—
Ophthalmic Neonatorum	—	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—

In making my report I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and encouragement throughout the year, and other officials and staff for their friendly help.

Yours faithfully,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

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Council Offices,

Brook Street,

RISHTON,

Nr. Blackburn.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year ended 31st December, 1965

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1965.

The Cleansing Service is entering a critical phase, the reduction of hours worked together with an increase of properties serviced is stretching the staff to the limit. The change in the composition of Refuse is also having its effect.

As predicted last year the Old Folks Bungalows have during the summer months been very attractive with their window boxes and garden tubs.

Labour shortages greatly affected the salvage position. The primary work of the department is the removal of Household Refuse and during times of difficulty salvage had to be sacrificed.

I am grateful to the officials and staff for the help I have received, and to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their encouragement and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

S. PILKINGTON,

Public Health Inspector.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Again the main cause of the trouble in the area is the low force of water, caused in the main by multiple joint supplies, although the attention of owners installing grants has been drawn to the possibility of including an improved water supply in their alteration, difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the voluntary agreement of all joint owners towards the improvement. It has been found that whilst the younger members of the community desire the work to be done the elder citizens are not willing to incur the expense involved.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The weekly collection of Household Refuse is now reaching a critical stage; several items are contributing towards this.

1. Increased number of properties.
2. Reduced working hours.
3. Composition of the Refuse itself.

To counteract these the Paper Sack System of Refuse Collection is gradually being installed on all long haul properties.

SALVAGE

Waste Paper	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
January	5	4	2	37	4	8
February	4	12	3	33	0	11
March	5	0	0	37	10	0
April	4	14	0	35	5	0
May	4	7	0	32	12	6
June	9	2	3	68	10	8
July		—			—	
August	5	11	2	41	16	3
September	4	6	0	32	5	0
October		—			—	
November		—			—	
December	2	11	2	19	6	3
	45	10	0	£337	11	3

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Ferrous Metals				16	12	0
Trade Tipping				17	16	0

UNSOUND FOOD

Cooked Ham ... ... $48\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Frequent visits are made to food handling premises during working hours when unhygienic practises can be spotted and corrected at the time they occur.

MILK

Brucellosis again occupied the greater part of the time in milk sampling, 117 samples were taken during the year and it was found that whilst some farms once they were cleared stayed clear, others were repeatedly re-infected. It can only be hoped that a scheme of complete irradication will eventually be found in the near future.

SMOKE CONTROL

Progress in this field has only been made on the Industrial front. Great reduction has been made over the past few years in the pollution from industrial sources. The latest improvement being the introduction of wet arresters installed at the local factory.

On the domestic front no smoke control zones have been established although the number of occupiers voluntarily installing smokeless appliances has been a pleasant surprise.

HOUSING

Houses inspected for defects	42
Number of inspections made for the purpose	181
Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	—
Number of dwelling houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation	31
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit by informal action ...	27
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notice was served	—
Number made fit by Local Authority after service of formal notice	—
Certificates of Unfitness applied for	—
Certificates of Unfitness granted	—
Certificates of Revocation applied for	—
Certificates of Revocation granted	—

STANDARD GRANTS

Applications submitted to Local Authority	61
Approved by Local Authority	61
Work completed	51

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

	Number on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecutions
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	34	7	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
	34	7	—	—